



09/30/04

Ref#  
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## Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/047,587
Filing Date	01/15/02
First Named Inventor	Nabil L. Muhanna, M.D.
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Stokes, Candice Capri
Attorney Docket Number	M112 1100

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a.  Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- i.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii.  Other Second Amendment & Response Filed on July 22, 2004

b.  Enclosed

I. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)	iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

**2. Miscellaneous**

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 09-0528. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

- i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 10/01/2004 MAHMED1 00000041 090528 10047587
- ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 385.00 DA
- iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Signature		Date	28 Sept 2004
Name (Print/Type)	Louis T. Isaf	Registration No.	29,078

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Signature

Name (Print/Type)	Suzanne D. Skinner	Date	29 Sept. 2004
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
MUHANNA )  
For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC PROSTHESIS AND METHODS OF  
IMPLANTATION



## CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above case are the following documents:

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal  
Copy of Second Amendment & Response Filed on 7/22/04  
Return Postcard

Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC  
P.O. Box 7037  
Atlanta, GA 30357-0037  
(404) 872-7000 (Telephone)  
(404) 888-7490 (Facsimile)

Docket No.: **M112 1100**

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I hereby certify that all correspondences listed above are being deposited for delivery to the above addressee, with the United States Postal Service "**EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE**" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below:

The envelope has been given U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee"  
Package #EV 377646567 US.

9-29-04  
Date

Suzanne Skinner  
(Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

Suzanne Skinner  
(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)